

July 15-16-17-18, 1982, page 2

me a walking encyclopedia. She was very friendly. Kay Shifler gave the Benediction. The group then settled into the recesses of the Chellino for after-dinner drinks and conversation. I and DWP and JVB chatted with the Shiflers in particular. With the Shiflers, DWP, JVB and I had a very interesting conversation. We spoke of Valley View: Oliver explained that the stock holders of Valley View have taken on an outside person who is now selling perpetual care on tombstones in Valley View and other such fancy arrangements like "memorial parks" and such. Naturally, money is involved and the new person is trying to get in touch with as many of the lot holders as possible. Oliver advised me not to call the cemetery number as I was going to do and tell them that the cemetery looks nice with the recently raised stones. If I do they will hit me for a contribution or the like. Oliver also said that the Brookside Records are a problem. Who has them? Two possible leads that have been investigated by Oliver Shifler are Morris Rogers of 96 Wyoming Street in Carbondale and a Mr. Fike of Mayfield. The only Fike I find in the Carbondale phone book is William D. Fike of 3 Dixon Avenue Carbondale. Oliver Shifler reported that the caretaker of Clifford Valley Cemetery is Charlie Horton of Clifford. Mrs. Kay Shifler is the one who "saved" the elm tree across the street from the Baptist Church. Back to the dinner: John Buberniak handed me several letters that were in the mail box and I opened them after dinner, in JVB's presence. Four or five new members of the Committee, as a result of the first mailing. They are: E. W. Haubens, John J. Madden, Frank J. Grayeski, Mrs. Mary Konosky. I opened the envelopes and handed the checks to John and he looked at the checks first. It was very amusing and we both enjoyed the whole process. At about 11 DWP and I drove John home. He agreed to meet me at City Hall on Friday morning to help stuff envelopes for the second membership mailing. We agreed to meet at 9 A.M. more or less. DWP and I went home and ate a little (I did) and then went to bed; exhausted. On Friday morning I went into town with HLRP and was at City Hall at about 9:30 and John appeared as we were driving up. We went up to Council Chambers and began the stuffing process of the second membership mailing (M-2). One of the city workers was chasing a chipmunk around the building with a large cardboard box and a tin of salted peanuts and he naively expected that the poor frightened chipmunk was going to eat a peanut and thus get ensnared in the box. John and I helped the fellow catch the chipmunk, which was released in Memorial Park. John and I made some headway with the mailing but I realized that we would require more time and I then said that we had to stop because I had to go to the bank. On the way I stopped and bought a few lottery tickets and John waited outside the store (Shaw's). At the Bank we ran into HLRP. I wanted to withdraw money from the Griswold Reunion account: \$30 for me for my postage expenses from last year and \$30 for DWP's postage expenses for this year. I told HLRP that John and I would meet her at the Big Chief and then JVB and I went to the Post Office and then to the Big Chief. We then went out to the Homestead and JVB worked on the stuffing envelopes project until luncheon was ready, which was rather quick. We ate and then the stuffing continued. At 2 P.M. DWP had an appointment with John Cramer and by 1:30 P.M. all of the envelopes were stuffed and sealed. DWP, JVB and I went to visit John Cramer and wife. Very nice people. Mrs. Cramer is a charter subscriber to NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA. They have a copy of the current issue in their living room at Crystal Lake. We spent a very nice two hours or so with them. They are pro-Dundaff and we talked about Dundaff. She served us cold tea, which was lovely. From Crystal Lake we went to Elkdale and examined the Christiana Bruce stone and DWP took some photographs and that was grand. We had a very pleasant visit in the cemetery and picked some black caps and DWP took a photograph of John and I picking black caps. From Elkdale we went to Forest City and saw Konchar and paid him and he was very pleased that we are so pleased with the repair of Christiana Bruce. We then asked him if he were ready for some more work and spoke of Clinton Center and off we went. He drove his car and we followed in the family chariot. At Clinton we examined the John Griswold/Elizabeth Crittenden stone that is broken in

July 15-16-17-18, 1982, page 3

TWO pieces and lying in the ground in front of the Griswold conglomerate and told him that we want it repaired and also pointed out several other Griswold stones that need attention: the Sumner Griswold obelisk, the Francis Griswold obelisk, Nathan Griswold, plus two or three others. He will do the repairs/straightening and have it done by August 22 for the "unveiling" when we will have a ceremony in the cemetery. I invited Konchar to the ceremony and I'm sure that he will attend. He shook my hand cordially at the conclusion of our cemetery commission to him and said that he would give us a good price on the work done. We went from Clinton Cemetery to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Grunski on the North and South and asked Mrs. Grunski what she knew about the barn foundation to the original Griswold homestead, "up behind the Grange." She knew nothing about it and neither did her husband, who arrived, on a tractor, when we were talking to Mrs. Grunski outside the back door. They are grand people and we had a wonderful visit talking about Clinton Township and the pioneers. Mr. and Mrs. Grunski will, I'm sure, make a few inquiries about the barn and we will find out the story on the John Griswold barn before too long. From the Grunskis (their house is built upon the foundations of the Theron Loomis house) we went to see Wyman Terrell, the caretaker of the Clinton Center Cemetery. He was just finishing his supper and was very friendly. We told him what we were having done and he was pleased. He agreed that the best place for the repaired stone would be to the right of the conglomerate stone. So that's that. We will take up a collection at the Reunion to pay for the repairs and that will make it easy for everyone to afford. From Clinton Center we returned to the Homestead and continued the stuffing operation of the CRCCH mailing and did the Griswold Reunion mailing. We had a grand time. John asked if he could stay over. I said that it would be best if he did not. He was having such a grand time with DWP and I that he did not want it to end and he wanted to stay over. I explained that we would start over again in the morning and we drove him into town. After we returned to the Homestead I addressed the 216 (or was it 217) envelopes by hand and DWP sorted out photographs and papers. He had xerox copies of many new photographs that he made at the Lackawanna Historical Society and he was incorporating the new material. I finished the addressing about 2 A.M. and went to bed, absolutely exhausted. On our way from the Grunskis to the Terrells, we stopped and refreshed ourselves at the Griswold spring in Griswold's Gap. At 10 A.M. DWP and I were at the post office on the following day and JVB was not there as he said he would. His father made him stay home on Saturday and help him. I'm sure that JVB was being "punished" by being made to stay home because he was out on Thursday night and all day Friday and so he was made to stay home on Saturday. DWP and I did the mailing and then went and tried to visit Edith Gardner only to find her not at home--so we were told by her neighbors on both sides. We then took a photographing walk through Maplewood. I showed DWP my recent cutting areas and the Alice Rashleigh stone and the Samuel Jones and Eleanor Pritchard stone and DWP took about 10 photographs--color slides. During our historic walk in the cemetery on Saturday the 17th, I told DWP: "If I should die before you, bury me in the Russell plot in Maplewood." He said to me: "Do likewise for me." So that's settled. We went over to have a small visit with Suchnick and then we went down to Ivy Antiques only to find that she had no new photographs and we then went into Mister Donut for coffee. At one point in our wandering about Carbondale, I bought a Nippon cup and saucer at the new antique store across from the Baptist Church: the cup and saucer out of which I am drinking at the time when I type this. The cut is mainly red and blue in coloring. A dark blue band around the rim of the cup and the saucer. Five women on the saucer. We then went to Kurt Reeds, where DWP bought lots of photographs and where I picked up the Amusement Park Napkin Ring and delivered to Kurt 25 copies of III, 3 for sale. He paid me for the 12 that he had and I gave \$10 to DWP and kept \$10 for myself. Kurt will do his lecture on Tuesday evening of Pioneer Days, August 24th, between 7 and 9 P.M. The lecture will be on Dorflinger glass or on antique clothing. Whichever topic will be a great success, I'm sure.